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## MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

ALL IN THE DAY'S WORK FOR  
SUPERINTENDENT ADE

With only twenty-four hours in the day and only so many ergs of energy in the human organism, the number of details and responsibilities of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, including engagements met, conferences attended, trips taken, projects initiated, details executed, becomes a human engineering problem of at least fourth dimension proportions.

The office of State Superintendent Lester K. Ade embraces approximately sixty-five (65) different divisions and activities, each of which requires definite planning and direction. The primary function of the office, of course, is the general supervision of the education of Pennsylvania's two million school children through the constructive efforts of more than sixty thousand teachers.

Looming large on the Superintendent's roster of duties also is the supervision of fourteen State Teachers Colleges with some nine thousand young men and women training for the profession, chairmanship of the Board of Teachers College Presidents, administration of the eighty million dollar educational appropriation for the biennium, the supervision and development of a school curriculum adapted to the needs of the oncoming citizenry, and the licensing of practitioners in the various registered professions in the Commonwealth. Other major responsibilities in the Superintendent's agenda are to serve as Chairman of the State Council of Education, which involves the certification of the teachers of Pennsylvania, to preside at the meetings of the State School Employees' Retirement Board, and of the State Historical Commission, as well as to supervise the Pennsylvania State Library and Museum, and three state-owned schools—a soldiers' orphan school, a school for the deaf, and an industrial school.

When these duties have been attended to, Dr. Ade has remaining the function of ex officio membership on the board of trustees of the Pennsylvania State College, on each of the fourteen State Teachers Colleges, and of the Sixteen professional examining boards. He likewise is responsible for the supervision of the State Board of Censors and for the administration of examinations for the Liquor Control Board. Moreover, many of the state-wide federal programs are cleared through the State Superintendent's office. One of these includes 233 school building projects under the Public Works Administration, involving an expenditure, including both local and federal funds, of approximately \$50,000,000.

Between these numerous routine activities, the Superintendent is called upon at various times to meet special groups of educators throughout Pennsylvania and beyond, who assemble for the discussion of their immediate problems. For example, within the last few weeks he responded to an invitation to address an educational conference at Dickinson College in Carlisle. He participated in the York County Teachers Institute at Nicholson. He spoke before the assembled educators of Columbia County and Bloomsburg State Teachers College at Bloomsburg. He represented Pennsylvania at the annual superintendent's convention of the National Education Association at St. Louis, Missouri. He took part in an educational program sponsored by Juniata College at Huntingdon.

On March 21, Dr. Ade addressed the school people of the north tier counties who assembled at the Mansfield Teachers College for a two-day School Fair. During the last week in March he participated in several sessions of the annual School Men's Week, held at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

The Superintendent has been heard to say that his most exciting day's experience since taking office was at a recent session of the School Employees' Retirement Board where he presided as chairman as his Board purchased outright ten million dollars worth of State Anticipation Bonds, took an option on eight million dollars more of the same bonds, and bought two million dollars worth of United States and local Government bonds, which transactions amounted to twenty million dollars. It is little wonder that Dr. Ade is frequently heard to say as he goes about his busy schedule, that he has not experienced "a dull moment since coming to Harrisburg."

## Higher Education

## Pennsylvania's Colleges

A bulletin just issued by the Office of Education at Washington entitled "Colleges and Universities," including all institutions of higher learning, presents some interesting figures that may be used as bases of comparison for those interested in education on the college level.

There are in the United States according to the new bulletin, 176 institutions of higher education, including 656 colleges, 262 professional schools, 136 teachers colleges, 78 normal schools, 438 junior colleges, and 109 negro colleges.

Pennsylvania, with 52 colleges and 13 teachers colleges, leads all the states in these two categories. With 98 institutions of higher education, Pennsylvania ranks fourth, New York and Illinois each having 120, and California having 102.

Of Pennsylvania's 98 institutions of higher learning, 15 are liberal arts colleges, 24 are professional schools, 13 are teachers colleges, three are normal schools, five are junior colleges, and two are negro colleges.

## Age Groups at Penn State

Of the 4839 graduates at Penn State College, 1043 are 21 years of age; while the next largest group, 1038, are twenty. Of the 17-year-olds, 23 are freshmen and two sophomores. The youngest junior is 18, and the youngest senior twenty.

## Fellowships and Scholarships

The Trustees of Teachers College, Columbia University, have authorized the granting of twelve fellowships and scholarships in the Advanced School of Education for the academic year 1936-37.

The fellowships of the Advanced School of Education are for individuals who are now or expect to become candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy or the degree of Doctor of Education in Teachers College, Columbia University.

The stipend for single persons who secure one of these Fellowships will vary from \$1200 to \$1700 at the discretion of the Committee on Fellowships and Scholarships, depending on the candidate's age and experience. For a married man accompanied by his family, the allotted minimum will be increased by \$500 to \$700 for his wife, and by \$150 to \$200 for each child. The maximum fellowship award will in most cases not exceed \$3000.

The stipend for single persons who receive one of these Scholarships will range from \$800 to \$1200 at the discretion of the Committee on Fellowships and Scholarships, depending on the age and experience of the applicant. This minimum will be increased for a married man accompanied by his family, in the amount of \$500 for his wife and \$150 for each child. In no case will the scholarship award exceed \$2000.



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No. 7

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## Traditions and Trends

### School Buildings

In a time when every educational dollar spent must yield an educational dollar's value in return, according to statements of State Superintendent Dr. Lester K. Ade, the standards for school building construction are based primarily upon functional values. The test of good school building practice, accordingly is the efficiency with which it serves an important educational purpose.

Educational and social requirements are given first consideration. Such features as have to do with safety, adequate lighting, comfortable heating, healthful ventilation, and general sanitation are of paramount importance. An important step in the construction of a new school plant is the preliminary survey which studies not only the educational requirements of the proposed building but the location, financial resources of the district, building specifications, the rotation of school activities, adaptability for community programs, and the possible use of existing school facilities.

### Interest of Youth

A survey made by the Office of Education at Washington brought forth from the young people of America the problems that they are most concerned about.

Among those revealed in the report are the following: Can business solve the employment problem? Should eligible young persons be paid a salary to complete their education in universities? Does the free public school system adequately prepare young persons for intelligent participation in national life? How can youth act effectively against war?

### New College Courses

A casual review of college bulletins announcing courses for next summer reveals

such innovations in the curricular offerings as the teaching of traffic safety, the recovery program, the presidential campaign, states rights, automobile operation, appreciation of humor, labor conditions in Pennsylvania, state planning, and recreation pursuits.

### Policy of Peace

Some 10,000 schools involving a million and a quarter students have participated in the last six years in the annual program sponsored by the National Student Forum on the Paris Pact in the high schools of America.

A statement by J. W. Studebaker, United States Commissioner of Education, strongly indorsing this program declares, "I am heartily in accord with Commissioner Cooper's statement made several years ago that it is the duty of our schools to teach the principles of the Pact. I support the efforts of the 500 prominent secondary schoolmen and women who constitute the committee in the changing of the National Student Forum to a definite place for the teaching of a social science program in every high school."

The Forum may be addressed at 532 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

## Administration and Finance

### Snow-Bound Schools Create Problem

The inability of school districts to keep their schools in continuous operation during January and February on account of the extraordinary snow fall, has created a state-wide problem involving the continuation of many schools beyond the normal closing date this spring.

The fact that night classes and Saturday classes are not permissible under the school code makes the problem all the more difficult. The universality of the problem in Pennsylvania is evidenced by a statement of Dr. Lee L. Driver, director of the rural schools division in the Department of Public Instruction, to the effect that in his long experience in cooperating with the rural schools of Pennsylvania, there has never been a year in which all of the counties of the State were affected by excessive snow fall as they have been this year.

Many of the schools were obliged to remain closed for periods as long as three weeks despite the splendid cooperation of the Department of Highways in attempting to keep the roads in a passable condition.

### High School Enrollments

A forthcoming bulletin of the Department of Public Instruction on "Public Secondary Schools," is replete with interesting and significant data relating to the trends in numbers of high schools and their enrollment.

In this connection, Dr. Lester K. Ade, Superintendent of Public Instruction, has declared "the rapid increase in enrollments of the secondary schools of the United States and particularly in those of Pennsylvania, is the cause of much interest to the public in general. The tercentenary of the secondary schools of the United States finds the enrollments in Pennsylvania high schools still increasing but at a lower rate than in previous years. Industrial conditions have made it impossible for many boys and girls to obtain employment. Many of these persons are remaining in school.

How to retain them in school and to make profitable their stay, is a very serious problem facing the secondary school officials."

Since 1910 the number of high schools in Pennsylvania has increased from 841 to 1234, while two-year high schools decreased from 504 to 56, and four-year high schools increased from 123 to 526.

In Pennsylvania there are twelve high schools with enrollments of more than 3000 each; one of these has an enrollment above 5000. Of the 1234 high schools in Pennsylvania last year, 57 are in first class districts, 74 in second class, 282 in third class, and 821 in fourth class districts.

High school graduates in Pennsylvania in the ten-year period from 1925 to 1935, increased from 33,000 to more than 70,000. The number of high school graduates taking post-graduate work during the same ten-year period increased from 223 to 3410, which amounts to approximately 5 per cent of all high school graduates. The number of graduates entering schools for nurses increased from 938 to 2045.

The difficulty that high school graduates are having to find employment or entering higher institutions of learning, is seen in the fact that while in 1925 only 3500 high school graduates remained at home after graduating, in 1934 more than 20,000 remained at home—almost 30 per cent.

## CALENDAR OF EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

### April

- 3—Music Educators National Conference, N. Y. C. Headquarters, Hotel Pennsylvania.
- 3-4—Tri-State Commercial Education Association Meeting, Pittsburgh.
- 9—Science Conference, Teachers College, Indiana, Pa.
- 10-11—Pennsylvania Academy of Science, State Teachers College, Indiana, Pa.
- 14-18—National Convention, American Physical Education Association, Hotel Statler, St. Louis, Mo.
- 18—Annual Industrial Arts Conference for Western Pennsylvania, State Teachers College, California, Pa.
- 18—Special Studies Conference, Teachers College, Indiana, Pa.
- 24-25—Pennsylvania Forensic and Music League, Ninth Annual Final State Contest, Pottsville, Pa.
- 25—Eastern Pennsylvania Industrial Arts Conference, State Teachers College, Millersville, Pa.

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to

### May

- 2—Forty-third Annual Convention, Association for Childhood Education, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City.
- 2—Commercial Contest, State Teachers College, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania.
- 8—Music Festival, State Teachers College, Clarion, Pa.
- 18—World Goodwill Day.

### June

- 11-13—Seventh Annual School Administrators Conference, Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn.
- 25-26—Fourth Conference on Business Education, University of Chicago.

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to

### July

- 2—National Education Association Convention, Portland, Oregon.
- 6-9—American Home Economics Association, Seattle, Wash.
- 28-30—Superintendents' Conference, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.



IN THE NAME AND BY AUTHORITY OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

PROCLAMATION

Free School Day  
April 8, 1936

WHEREAS, an educated citizenry is essential to successful and permanent self-government, and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 1834 the legislators of Pennsylvania wisely enacted the free public school law to assure an education to all the children of the Commonwealth, and

WHEREAS, the history of education in Pennsylvania since the enactment of the free public school law has amply demonstrated that our people have built wisely and well as indicated by our present public school system, comprising more than 2500 school districts, 60,000 teachers, and more than 2,000,000 children, and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is committed to the proposition that every child be given an adequate education at the hands of competent and understanding teachers in school buildings that are hygienic, safe, and well adapted to the important functions they serve, and with provision for the continuance of education whereby the citizen may be able to adjust himself to the new civic, social, and economic responsibilities in the Commonwealth, and

WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting and proper on the anniversary of the founding of the public school system that due recognition be given to the noble and telling efforts of Governor George Wolf, Samuel Breck, Thaddeus Stevens, and other citizens and leaders of the time who so ardently advocated free public schools when tradition, circumstance, and the vicissitudes of pioneer life made difficult of attainment the ideals of our forefathers,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George H. Earle, Governor of the Commonwealth, in accordance with the spirit and provisions of the Act of June 5, 1935, P. L. 275, and with the firm conviction of the importance of the same, do hereby designate and proclaim Wednesday, April 8, as Free School Day for 1936, and call upon the public schools of the State, as well as the citizenry at large, to reflect upon the close relation between adequate free schools and the general welfare of the Commonwealth; and to give honor to those leaders, past and present, who have contributed to the advancement of education, and to give appropriate expression to this celebration by joining in public meetings and in other appropriate ways to the end that "the blessing of education shall be conferred on every son of Pennsylvania—shall be carried home to the poorest child of the poorest inhabitant of the meanest hut of your mountains, so that even he may be prepared to act well his part in this land of freemen, and lay on earth a broad and a solid foundation for that enduring knowledge which goes on increasing through increasing eternity."

GIVEN under my hand and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth, in the City of Harrisburg, this thirty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six, and of the Commonwealth the one hundred and sixtieth.

By the Governor:

GEORGE H. EARLE

DAVID L. LAWRENCE  
Secretary of the Commonwealth

IN THE NAME AND BY AUTHORITY OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

PROCLAMATION

Bird and Arbor Day  
April 17 & 24  
1936

Pennsylvania is richly endowed by Nature in forest, field, and flower, as well as in abundant animal and bird life. This generous natural inheritance imposes a correspondingly great responsibility on the part of the citizens of the Commonwealth to preserve and propagate these invaluable resources. This may best be done by means of a permanent program of education, designed to promote the protection and appreciation of Pennsylvania's natural beauties. At the approach of Spring, the numerous educational and civic bodies of our State are eager to cooperate in a program looking toward the preservation and perpetuation of Pennsylvania's rich inheritance.

A clear realization of the importance of conserving natural resources led Switzerland, even in the times of the Druids, to institute an annual tree-planting custom. On this continent the Aztec Indians, historical ancestors of the Mexicans, initiated the practice of planting a tree for each new-born child. In the United States in 1872, Nebraska established by law the first Arbor Day. This custom seemed so practical that in a very few years every state in the Union had adopted some form of annual conservation program.

Pennsylvania was by no means the last of the states to take this commendable action, for on March 17, 1885, our Commonwealth enacted a law providing for an annual Arbor Day celebration, and in May, 1915, a similar law providing for the annual celebration of Bird Day. In carrying out the spirit of these provisions, the people and organizations have sponsored programs of beautification of home and school, protection of birds, game and fish, propagation of trees and forests, and the preservation of flowers and shrubs.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George H. Earle, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby designate and proclaim Friday, April 17, and Friday, April 24, as Spring Arbor and Bird Days, and call upon every community, school, and civic organization, as well as upon each and every citizen of this Commonwealth, to give due observance to these days by protecting and planting trees, shrubbery, and flowers on and about school grounds, along highways, and at other appropriate places for the general beautification and necessary reforestation of Pennsylvania; and by promoting, through a proper study and appreciation, the conservation and increase of the species of our wild birds for the greater enjoyment and the valuable natural service they furnish our citizenry; and I further recommend that the April 17 date be observed as Arbor and Bird Day in the southern part of the State, and April 24 in the northern part in special recognition of this fifty-first anniversary of the founding of this worthy custom.

GIVEN under my hand and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth, at the City of Harrisburg, this thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-six, and of the Commonwealth the one hundred and sixtieth.

By the Governor:

GEORGE H. EARLE

DAVID L. LAWRENCE  
Secretary of the Commonwealth



## Instruction

### New Occupational Service

A new occupational service designed to assist high school principals, librarians, vocational teachers, commercial teachers, deans, advisors, and parents, has been initiated by the National Occupational Conference, and consists of a continuous monthly bibliography of occupational information gathered from current books, pamphlets, and periodicals.

More than 100 periodicals and pamphlets issued by 500 professional associations, trade unions, business organizations, and research workers, are used by the conference in compiling the monthly bibliography which will aid school people everywhere in keeping pace with rapidly changing occupations as well as new ones that develop from time to time.

The National Occupational Conference may be addressed at 511 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

### Illiteracy and Alien Problems

A bulletin entitled "Illiteracy, Non-English Speaking, and Alien Problems and Their Solution," has just been issued by the Department of Public Instruction for the use of educators and administrators dealing with these subjects in Pennsylvania.

In the foreword, Dr. Lester K. Ade, Superintendent of Public Instruction says, "The illiteracy, non-English speaking and alien problems of Pennsylvania are important considerations for those who are interested in the progressive improvement of the status of citizenship in the Commonwealth.

"The problems of reducing illiteracy in English and of assimilating the foreign-born population, being educational in nature, are incumbent upon the public school officials of the Commonwealth."

The new bulletin covers such aspects of this far-reaching problem as a definition of the situation in Pennsylvania, the state program of English and citizen classes for native illiterates, teaching methods, legislative provision for citizen classes, naturalization and immigration policies and some needed developments.

The text is replete with graphs and tables presenting in a very clear manner the various phases of the situation in the Commonwealth.

### Prospective Teachers Are Studied

An extensive research into the quality of high school seniors who contemplate becoming teachers was made recently by Tressa C. Yeager of the Department of Public Instruction.

The study which has been published by the Teachers College, Columbia University, consists of an inquiry into the philosophy of education from the point of view of the selection of students for teacher training. Heretofore, in the selection of candidates for the profession such devices as the intelligence test, personality investigation, analysis of the cultural background, a record of the social adaptabilities, and a physical examination have been the customary procedures.

Miss Yeager's investigation attempts an answer to the question "What type of high school senior is interested in teaching?" Her study works along two distinct lines: first, Is the teaching profession drawing the best type of high school senior? Second,

How do those high school seniors attracted to teaching compare with high school seniors in general and with high school seniors interested in other vocations.

The investigation discloses the fact that the teaching preference group is of slightly higher socio-economic status and intelligence and of superior scholarship. They show a greater degree of leadership in extra-curricula activities, a more stable emotion, and a more dominant attitude to face reality.

However, when the teaching preference group is compared with high school seniors having chosen other vocations, they are not consistently superior except in leadership and attitude toward teachers and the teaching profession.

## SIGNIFICANT STATISTICS

### Private Schools

Information from the Office of Education at Washington, reports that there are more than 10,000 private elementary and secondary schools in the United States.

It is estimated that there are at least 2,000,000 elementary and 345,000 secondary pupils enrolled in the private schools of the United States. Most of the private elementary schools, about 92 per cent, have some denominational affiliation. These denominations include Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Seven-Day Adventists.

Most of the private elementary schools for negroes are in the southern states, Louisiana having the largest number, with Alabama the next largest. Of the northern states Pennsylvania and New York have the most private elementary schools for negroes, Pennsylvania having six and New York five.

There are approximately 3000 private high schools and academies employing approximately 20,000 instructors of which 28 per cent are men. The earlier settlement of the eastern part of the United States coupled with the fact that a larger proportion of big cities exist in the eastern portion of the country, accounts for the fact that most private schools are located in the east.

### Choice of Subjects by Adults

Among thirty subjects offered the students in the opportunity schools of Boston, according to the annual report of the Superintendent of that city, typewriting ranks first in frequency of election with history last. Of the total students enrolled, 895 chose typewriting, while only eight elected history. The next most popular courses were shorthand, office machines, civil service for commercial art, and bookkeeping.

It is interesting to note that all of these popular courses are in the commercial field. At the bottom of the list along with history are German, drama, Italian, and Spanish. Among the other courses offered the students are millinery, chess, personality improvement, public speaking, and telegraphy.

### Accidents

The enormity of America's accident problem is revealed in statistics of the National Safety Council which show that 99,000 persons died in accidents last year, and that an expense of \$3,000,000,000 was entailed to cover property damage, wage loss, and medical care. Permanently injured were 365,000 more individuals, while 9,100,000 in addition were temporarily disabled; and 36,400 deaths were caused by automobile accidents, with home accidents responsible for almost as many more, 31,500.

## Superintendent Ade Comments on Father-and-Son-Week

As chairman of the Father-and-Son-Week celebration, which was carried forward everywhere in Pennsylvania during the last week in February, State Superintendent Lester K. Ade made the following remarks with regard to this important observance.

"Children are the Nation's most precious assets. Their joys and sorrows are shared with grown-ups the world around; interest in their growth to decent manhood and womanhood is shared by everyone. An unexplained disappearance of a child would arouse a Nation to frenzied search and a child in danger would cause men to volunteer to make the rescue. The spirit that manifests itself in times of danger is worthy of cultivation in times of security. Fathers should ever be ready to sit and counsel with their own boys and give them the real fellowship so necessary during that period when boys look toward their parents for guidance and companionship."

At the conclusion of his comments and after commending this movement and inviting generous support for the celebration of the same, Dr. Ade added that boys need wholesome, vigorous companions, a need that can be satisfied by their joining clubs having high ideals; that healthy bodies can be developed and maintained through programs of play and recreation; that adequate educational training can be provided only through the agency of the established schools, and that high ideals and worthy goals can be attained through an appreciation of the manifestations of the work of the Divine Hand.

"From the events of Father-and-Son-Week," said Dr. Ade, "let the fruits of fellowships grow and grow to the end that Fathers and Sons may walk the high roads and by-ways of life hand in hand."

## Licensing Bureau

### New Type Scholarship Examination

Because of the excellent progress made by a committee appointed by Dr. Lester K. Ade, Superintendent of Public Instruction, the candidates from the senior classes of the various high schools in Pennsylvania who take the annual state scholarship examination throughout Pennsylvania on Friday, May 1, will be offered an examination differing greatly from the ones given in previous years.

Heretofore, each candidate was obliged to undergo an examination in English, one in history, and a third in any of eight elective subjects. The differences in courses taught in the high schools of Pennsylvania gave rise to wide discrepancies in the preparation of the candidate in these several subjects, causing considerable dissatisfaction amongst superintendents and principals because of this inequality of opportunity of students to achieve good marks in the examination.

The new type test which is entirely objective in form, is a composite examination including questions in the fields of English and history, as well as some items of an exploratory nature in the eight



elective subjects. The object of the new test is not so much to determine a candidate's specific knowledge in these several fields as to determine a fair index of his ability and capacity as a student as well as his worthiness of receiving a scholarship.

The new examination is made up of twelve pages of items covering a wide field of information. The list of candidates offering themselves for the state scholarship examination will be available for any senator who may desire to consult the same with a view of nominating a candidate for one of the senatorial scholarships.

#### Professional Examination Schedule

The bureau of professional licensing which has been arranging a schedule for conducting examinations throughout Pennsylvania has completed arrangements for prospective barbers, real estate operators, and beauticians.

The examinations for barbers were held the first Tuesday in March. Real estate operators will be examined on the second Saturday in April in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Erie, and Wilkes-Barre, with some 700 candidates expected to report. Examinations for beauty culturists, which cover the four fields of the profession, will be given the third Tuesday in April, in the cities above mentioned. According to advanced applications more than 800 candidates will offer themselves for these tests.

Other examinations which will be scheduled at a later date will accommodate candidates in the fields of medical education, pharmacy, optometry, osteopathy, nursing, veterinary surgery, accountancy, mine inspection, and engineering.

## AUXILIARY AGENCIES

### Parent Teachers Associations

With a view toward promoting better international understanding in America, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers a few years ago created a committee on international relations from which committee there has developed, to date, 38 state committees under the auspices of the PTA.

The distinction of being both state and national chairwoman of this division of parent teacher work is enjoyed by Mrs. A. H. Reeve. Among the various devices being used by the organization to promote its program are the observances of World Goodwill Day and Pan American Day, the former occurring about May 18 and the latter about April 14.

The organization also cooperates closely with the international friendship program of the Junior Red Cross. The committee on international relations is developing a program of interest not only to the children of the public schools but to the adults of every community in America.

## FEDERAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION

### Elementary School Libraries

A valuable pamphlet entitled, "Aids in Book Selection for Elementary School Libraries," has been issued by the Office of Education at Washington and is designed to be of practical use to all school people interested in developing libraries for the elementary grades. A dozen types of aids

in selecting books are presented in this pamphlet, including book lists, personal advice, library periodicals, boards of education lists, State Department compilations, American Library Association catalogs, subscription sets, bibliographies in books, periodicals national in scope, and book guides.

In making their suggestions for the selection of books for the elementary grades, the authors of the manual took into account such factors as the literary merits of the books, the accuracy of their information, the quality of the paper, the character of the illustrations, the durability of the binding, the range of interests in the content, the teaching devices included in the books, the educational values, and the cost.

### Five Federal Projects Approved

Five federal projects for the advancement of education have been authorized by President Roosevelt through the Office of Education at Washington. These works are to be financed by relief funds and will give work to approximately 3500 "white collar" unemployed.

Thirty-three thousand (\$33,000) dollars has been authorized for the conducting of public forums to promote adult civic education. Five hundred thousand (\$500,000) dollars has been allocated for research, in which needy graduates will engage in cooperative studies of important educational problems. Two hundred and thirty-four thousand (\$234,000) dollars is to be used in vocational education for negroes. Seventy-five thousand (\$75,000) dollars has been made available for a series of educational radio programs involving talent selected from CCC and WPA dramatic rolls. Eight hundred and forty-four thousand (\$844,000) dollars is the amount set aside to aid states in planning for more efficient school district organization, based on the conception of organizing local school units to the best educational interests of the greatest number of children.

### National Educational Directory

Just off the Government Press is the new *United States Educational Directory for 1936*, containing four valuable lists as follows:

- Part I—State and County School Officers.
- Part II—City School Officers.
- Part III—Colleges and Universities.
- Part IV—Educational Associations and Directories.

## RADIO

### Drama of Pioneers

"Wilderness Road," a dramatic story of the experiences of a family of American pioneers, had its premiere over the coast-to-coast Columbia Network on Monday, March 2, from 5:15 to 5:30 P. M. Eastern Standard Time. A continuation of this program can be heard each week day except Saturday at the same hour. It is designed to be of interest to people of all ages.

The series is based on authentic data of the historical era of axe and gun, of exploration and Indian fights, of frontier life and high adventure in new lands. The spirit and purpose that went into the building of the American nation are depicted in vivid form. Listeners will become acquainted with a typical pioneer family, which will carry on its interesting day to day life through the periods of the covered wagon, the pony express, the development of railroads, and the growth of villages and towns.

## Anticipating Anniversaries

Persons interested in education may find it desirable to capitalize upon significant anniversaries in the lives of Americans and American institutions as they recur from time to time. The period just ahead is rich in the anniversaries of people who have made national and international history.

### April

- 12—Henry Clay, 1777-1852.  
Representative, senator and orator.  
Three times candidate for President.  
Elected to the Hall of Fame.
- 13—Thomas Jefferson, 1743-1826.  
Statesman, third president of the United States.  
Author of the Declaration of Independence, founder of the University of Virginia.  
Diplomat to foreign countries.  
Elected to the Hall of Fame.
- 15—John Lathrop Motley, 1814-1877.  
Ambassador to Austria and Great Britain, historian, biographer.  
Elected to the Hall of Fame.
- 16—Wilbur Wright, 1867-1912.  
Designer and perfecter of airplanes.
- 18—Paul Revere's famous ride, 1775.
- 19—Battle of Lexington and Concord, 1775.
- 23—William Shakespeare, 1564-1616.  
The greatest of English dramatists and poets.
- 26—John James Audubon, 1785-1851.  
Naturalist, author.  
Elected to the Hall of Fame.
- 27—Ulysses Simpson Grant, 1822-1885.  
Military General, twice president of the United States.  
Elected to the Hall of Fame.
- 27—Samuel F. B. Morse, 1791-1872.  
Inventor of telegraph, painter, professor.  
Elected to the Hall of Fame.
- 28—James Monroe, 1758-1831.  
The 5th president of the United States.  
Soldier, statesman, ambassador to France.  
Governor of Virginia, author of the Monroe Doctrine.  
Elected to the Hall of Fame.

## Higher Education

### PENNSYLVANIA TO PARTICIPATE IN NATION WIDE STUDY

The State Departments of Education in approximately ten states have been authorized by President Roosevelt through the United States Office of Education to employ emergency workers in checking information which will provide a sound basis for more economical and efficient school administration.

Superintendent Lester K. Ade, in behalf of the Department of Public Instruction of Pennsylvania, has accepted an invitation to participate in this program. Such problems as size of attendance areas, the financial ability of districts to support their schools, the revision of school finance, and the adequacy of school buildings, are among those to be studied in the project. Since these problems are amongst those immediately confronting Pennsylvania, the Department of Public Instruction looks upon this opportunity with eagerness.